

PATENT
Customer Number 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 4329.2047-01
Client Ref. No.: T3NN-98S0910-1CD

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Hiroshi Asada, et al.) Prior Group Art Unit: 2642
)
Rule 53(b) Divisional Application of:) Prior Examiner: Benny Quoc Tieu
Serial No. 09/226,719, filed)
January 7, 1999)
)
Filed: February 7, 2002) Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned
)
For: MULTIMEDIA PRIVATE BRANCH) Examiner: Not yet assigned
EXCHANGER AND PRIVATE)
BRANCH EXCHANGE SYSTEM)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application
as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-14, and add new claims 15-32.

15. A router attachable to and detachable from a private branch exchanger,
comprising:

communication network interface means connectable to a communication
network;

bus interface means connectable to a bus of said private branch exchanger;

memory means including a routing table; and

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routing means for routing a packet signal transmitted via said communication network interface means with reference to said routing table, in accordance with an address signal, and for transmitting said packet signal to said bus interface means.

16. A router according to claim 15, wherein said communication network interface means is further connectable to voice encoding/decoding means for encoding a voice signal to a voice packet signal and for decoding a voice packet signal to a voice signal.

17. A router according to claim 15, wherein said communication network interface means includes hub means.

18. A router attachable to and detachable from a private branch exchanger, comprising:

communication network interface means connectable to a communication network;

bus interface means connectable to a bus of said private branch exchanger;

memory means including a routing table; and

routing means for protocol converting a packet signal transmitted via said communication network interface means, and for routing said packet signal with reference to said routing table, in accordance with an address signal, and for transmitting said packet signal to said bus interface means.

19. A router according to claim 18, wherein said communication network interface means is further connectable to voice encoding/decoding means for encoding a voice signal to a voice packet signal and for decoding a voice packet signal to a voice signal.

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20. A router according to claim 18, wherein said communication network interface means includes hub means.

21. A router attachable to and detachable from a private branch exchanger, comprising:

communication network interface means connectable to a communication network;

bus interface means connectable to a bus of said private branch exchanger; and

time slot assigning means for assigning packet signals transmitted via said communication network interface means, to time slots of a bus connected to said bus interface means.

22. A router according to claim 21, wherein said communication network interface means is further connectable to voice encoding/decoding means for encoding a voice signal to a voice packet signal and for decoding a voice packet signal to a voice signal.

23. A router according to claim 21, wherein said communication network interface means includes hub means.

24. A router attachable to and detachable from a private branch exchanger, comprising:

communication network interface unit connectable to a communication network;

bus interface unit connectable to a bus of said private branch exchanger;

memory including a routing table; and

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controller for routing a packet signal transmitted via said communication network interface unit with reference to said routing table, in accordance with an address signal, and for transmitting said packet signal to said bus interface unit.

25. A router according to claim 24, wherein said communication network interface unit is further connectable to voice encoding/decoding unit for encoding a voice signal to a voice packet signal and for decoding a voice packet signal to a voice signal.

26. A router according to claim 24, wherein said communication network interface unit includes hub.

27. A router attachable to and detachable from a private branch exchanger, comprising:

communication network interface unit connectable to a communication network;
bus interface unit connectable to a bus of said private branch exchanger;
memory including a routing table; and

controller for protocol converting a packet signal transmitted via said communication network interface unit, and for routing said packet signal with reference to said routing table, in accordance with an address signal, and for transmitting said packet signal to said bus interface unit.

28. A router according to claim 27, wherein said communication network interface unit is further connectable to codec for encoding a voice signal to a voice packet signal and for decoding a voice packet signal to a voice signal.

29. A router according to claim 27, wherein said communication network interface unit includes hub.

30. A router attachable to and detachable from a private branch exchanger, comprising:

communication network interface unit connectable to a communication network;
bus interface unit connectable to a bus of said private branch exchanger; and
time slot assigner for assigning packet signals transmitted via said communication network interface unit, to time slots of a bus connected to said bus interface unit.

31. A router according to claim 30, wherein said communication network interface unit is further connectable to codec for encoding a voice signal to a voice packet signal and for decoding a voice packet signal to a voice signal.

32. A router according to claim 30, wherein said communication network interface unit includes hub.

REMARKS

With entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 15-32 are pending in this application, which is a divisional application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 09/226,719, filed January 7, 1999.

In the parent application, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121 between Group I, claims 1-15 and 25, and Group II, claims 16-24 and 26-34. Applicants elected Group I in the parent application. In this divisional application, Applicants respectfully request consideration of non-elected Group II. Claims 15-32 filed in this divisional application correspond to claims 16-24 and 26-34 cancelled in the parent application.

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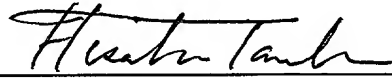
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If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 6, 2002

By: 
Hisako Tanaka
Granted Limited Recognition
Under 37 CFR § 10.9(b)

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